Extortion by terrorists In North-East

1110. SHRI KHAGEN DAS: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the terrorist organization in North-East are raising huge funds by extortion and are also getting assistance through various illegal channels;

(b) whether Government are also aware that some of the funds received are being deposited in various foreign accounts;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) what are the steps being taken by Government to curb these illegal activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) According to available reports militants operating in North-East are indulging in extortions apart from abductions for ransom.

(b) and (c) There is no confirmed information about the foreign accounts deposit of the funds by the militant groups operating in North-East.

(d) The State Governments in North-East have taken up steps to check the extortion by various outfits from officers /individuals by deploying plain clothes security personnel at important offices and checking payment of salaries in respect of Government employees, who are alleged to have helped the under ground outfit on extortion. Many terrorists were arrested by police and booked under relevant sections of law. Other steps like deployment of additional armed police personnel and regular patrolling /combing activities by the police and Para-military forces are being undertaken frequently to curb their activities.